**POLICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held at the Government House, Stanley

At 1500 hrs on Wednesday, 6th April 2022

***These minutes are draft minutes until confirmed by resolution at the***

***next meeting of this Committee***

**In Attendance**: Nigel Phillips, His Excellency the Governor, Chair (HE) Superintendent Michael Luke, Chief of Police (COP)

Simon Young, Attorney General (AG)

MLA Roger Spink (RS)

MLA Ian Hansen (IH)

Andrew Brownlee, Justice of Peace (AB)

**Other attendance:** Lisa Watson– Penguin News

Bill Milroy – FIRS

Mia Curtis, FICS Student (Work Experience)

**Minutes**: Cress Thomas, PA to Chief of Police

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|  |  | **(Action)** |
|  | **Part I** |  |
|  | The meeting started at 1500 hrs. |  |
| **1.0** | **Apologies** |  |
| 1.1 | Apologies for absence were received from Andy Keeling, Chief Executive; Colin Summers, Acting Chief Executive; and Janette Vincent, Justice of Peace. |  |
| **2.0** | **Declaration of Interest** |  |
| 2.1 | The committee welcomed the COP on his first Police Committee Meeting. |  |
| 2.2 | AB declared that Lifestyles Ltd can and has provided various items for RFIP as and when needed. |  |
| **3.0** | **Confirmation of the Open Minutes of Meeting held on 19th January 2022** |  |
| 3.1 | RS raised via email prior to the meeting that within item 5.15 from the previous meeting minutes, there should be an additional statement added to specify:  *“RS pointed out that Police Ordinance states that [On Policing objectives (1) The Committee shall, before the end of January in each calendar year, consider what the objectives for the policing of the Falkland Islands should be in the financial year beginning on the following 1st July and how those objectives should be implemented and shall report thereon in writing to the Governor with a view to its report being considered by the Governor with the advice of Executive Council*.]”. This was agreed by HE. Furthermore, it was noted that with a new Chief Police Officer (CPO) shortly to arrive in the Islands, it was appropriate that he be given time to offer his perspective.  It was therefore agreed that the policing objectives should be presented to the Police Committee Meeting (6th April 2022).  The A/COP was asked to ensure Supt. Michael Luke (Incoming COP) was aware of this action, and have since confirmed that the action placed on the then A/CPO has been executed.”  Once the amendments are made, the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. |  |
| **4.0** | **Matters Arising from the Open Minutes of Meeting held on 19th January 2022** |  |
| 4.1 | (5.2) New Radio System  The COP stated that the budget request for the new radio system has been submitted and is awaiting approval from Standing Finance Committee which is due to be held on 27th April 2022. SURE have also confirmed that there will be no adverse impact on the 4G System in the islands once the police radio traffic is in place. The COP added that following the major incident exercise it was highlighted that communications was an issue and the new radio system will be beneficial to RFIP once in place. |  |
| 4.2 | (5.6) Force Inspection  The COP stated that he has been liaising with the Overseas Police Adviser, Andrew MUNDAY, and agreed that the Inspection will commence from 24th October 2022. This is to allow RFIP to focus on other upcoming events such as the 40th Liberation Anniversary, Baton Relay and more. RFIP are also running a public perception survey in July 2022 and with winter coming up it was felt that October would be the ideal time of the year to conduct the inspection. |  |
| 4.3 | All other matters arising are covered within the open report of the COP. |  |
| **5.0** | **Report of the Chief of Police (Open Session)** |  |
| 5.1 | OTRCIS (Overseas Territory Regional Crime Intelligence System)  The CPO stated that OTRCIS went live since June 2021. Further features such as custody records, voluntary attenders, firearms, criminal records, and registered sex offender management will be developed. The database continues to be populated with individuals (nominals) and data migration is on-going. |  |
| 5.2 | Body Worn Cameras (BWC)  The COP stated that RFIP received BWCs donated by Devon & Cornwall Police. In addition to this, RFIP purchased 8 new BWCs which were paid through FCDO funding. This enables all officers to have their own BWC when on duty. There are also discussions with Synergy regarding additional storage space and to ensure that back-ups are scheduled accordingly. |  |
| 5.3 | Leaning and Development  The COP stated that there were significant delays with RFIP’s training plans due to quarantine requirements and other Covid restrictions in place worldwide. Training plans are still in place and have been agreed as follows; The plan will allow for the Inspection to be completed first so that all current processes and procedures are reviewed to ensure that all the needs of the organisation going forward are addressed accordingly.   * Firearms Training – recently completed, three week course. * Crime Scene Investigations (CSI) & Forensics Training – April 2022 * Law Training with AG – April 2022 * Office Safety Training – May 2022 * Custody Training – October/November 2022 (Dates TBC) * Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) Training – January 2023 (Dates TBC)   In addition to this, the COP stated that PC Thorsen successfully completed her PIP Level 2 Training (Professionalising Investigations Programme) with Devon & Cornwall Police. The course was completed online and PC Thorsen is now undertaking her work based assessment and is being mentored and assessed by DS Lewis who also completed an online Tutor’s Course. It is anticipated that PC Thorsen will become a Detective Constable in due course.  Furthermore, RFIP have now appointed a Training Officer PC McKeown who will deliver foundation courses to local constables as well as basic policing training for new Reserve Police Constables. PC McKeown will commence this role from 1st May 2022. |  |
| 5.4 | Community Engagement  The COP stated that the Inspector, MASH Officer and Chief Firearms Officer have visited the West Falklands during February 2022. It was well received by camp residents and will be organised again later in the year, including East Camp areas such as North Arm, Goose Green, Darwin, etc. Camp patrols have now been included as part of an officer’s induction.  In addition to this, there is also a regular visit to MPC, this includes fortnightly surgeries, meeting with JSPSU and CMLO; it is anticipated that RFIP will have regular patrols during weekends jointly with JSPSU and intend to expand these to other days in particular especially when the civilian flights resume.  Furthermore, RFIP were also involved with various community events such as the International Women’s Day, Multi-Cultural Day, and Marathon. The COP stated that the multi-cultural day turned out to be a really fantastic day and exceeded the expectations of many. RS added that liaising with the different communities in the Islands for a chat or simple conversations is a good way forward and would certainly help the officers get to know a bit more about the Falklands and it’s culture. The COP stated that he plans to meet the Saint, Filipino and Chilean communities and that in fact when he was sworn in as the Chief of Police he was with two new reserve constables who are Filipino and Chilean national. IH added that the rural business associations are due to have a ‘Farmers Week’ in July and this is another opportunity for RFIP to engage with farmers and get to know more about life in the farms. |  |
| 5.5 | Domestic Abuse (DA)  The COP stated that domestic abuse seems to be under reported and RFIP received only one report of DA in the last quarter. The COP is due to meet with Nikki Murphy (NM), Head of Social Services, on 19th April 2022 to re-energise the multi-agency risk assessments to ensure that other agencies are aware of the reporting process. The COP added that the RFIP provide several ways of reporting such offences or general concerns which include a confidential email address and confidential hotline.  RS stated that there was a previous campaign led by the then Head of Social Services – Call Ida. This included screening of short films in the Cinema to raise awareness of the public. The COP stated that he will discuss this with NM to find the best way forward to refresh the campaign. |  |
| 5.6 | Day and Night Time Economy  The COP stated that this remains the key priority of RFIP especially during busy weekends. There’s also been a few smaller cruise ships visit the Islands and part of our planning is to ensure that there is police presence at the Public Jetty. The COP said that the number of incidents around night time economy have reduced over the last few weeks although RFIP continue to receive reports of public order in various locations. The military are still banned from entering the Globe Tavern. |  |
| 5.7 | Road Safety  The COP stated that Road Safety also remains a priority of RFIP as we continue to receive various reports of speeding, careless driving, drink driving and more road traffic offences. It is to note, however, that during the last quarter there were not any serious or fatal incidents recorded. The pattern remains the same with minor damage collisions occurring within Stanley. The COP added that we plan to conduct another pre-winter Road Safety Campaign from 30th April 2022 to 9th May 2022. This will be announced accordingly. |  |
| 5.8 | Cyber Crime  The COP stated that there are no issues around this matter. RFIP remains a member of the International Watch Foundation. |  |
| 5.9 | Drugs  The COP stated that there is one on-going investigation relating to drug importation from the UK. |  |
| 5.10 | Financial Report  The COP stated that RFIP remains within budget. The COP also thanked FCDO for additional support in funding the new body worn cameras. It is known that the Investigation Expenses are over budget due to Op Quartz. RFIP also had an upgrade with uniform as there was significant items that were not in stock and therefore this is expected to go slightly over budget before the 2021/22 financial year. However, all other budget lines are within the expected levels and the shortfall on Investigation and Uniform expenses can be covered. |  |
| 5.11 | RFIP Staffing  The COP stated that there was only three sickness day recorded in the last quarter – these are three different staff on different days. RFIP also received one complaint which is currently on-going; and received two letters of appreciation.  The COP added that as the Islands are lifting all restrictions from 4thMay 2022, RFIP have a Business Continuity Plan to ensure that we will continue to provide a policing service. HE added that there are a number of visitors expected for the 40th Liberation Anniversary; we also have the ability to request for assistance from the Military Police Organisation if needed. |  |
| 5.12 | Annual Delivery Plan Update   * RFIP Website is currently being updated to ensure that all new officers and staff information are available to users. RFIP also aims to publish at least one story each day on our Facebook page to keep community members up-to-date with policing duties. * RFIP received calls to the confidential line which were well received and actioned accordingly. * RFIP continues to work with various partner agencies especially around CSE to protect vulnerable young females. We aim to continue raising awareness and hopefully increase confidence of many to come forward not necessarily to the Police straight away but also to other agencies, particularly the Education Department. There has been significant work done by the MASH Officer DC Taylor and Clinical Psychologist Dr Murphy in delivering training sessions not only in Stanley but also to MPC including bespoke sessions to various work environments such as the Leisure Centre, Hospitality sector, teachers and more. The AG added that there were various individuals attending voluntarily which is very positive. * RFIP will continue as intelligence led policing. Sharing of intelligence information is also being reviewed to ensure that we capture all information about individuals or what is coming to the Islands, etc. |  |
| 5.13 | Statistical Data  The COP stated that during the last quarter there were total of 19 crimes dealt with. 7 crimes were detected, 1 was undetected (Criminal Damage), 1 was marked no crime and 10 are currently on-going. During this period there were also a total of 4 arrests and 4 voluntary attenders where people are being interviewed under caution but were not arrested. This makes the detection rate for the 3rd quarter of 2021/22 at 37%. The breakdown of crimes dealt with are shown below:  In addition to this, the COP stated that there were 13 traffic reports dealt with during the last quarter. 3 of which were detected, 4 was undetected, 4 were only recorded but did not require any further police action and 2 are currently on-going. Out of the 13 reports, 6 were Driving without due care and attention. This will be one of the key areas that will be focussed on the next Road Safety Campaign.  Furthermore, total of 437 calls was received between 1st January 2022 and 23rd March 2022. RFIP received 48 False-999 calls and dealt with 32 Live-999 incidents. This includes responding to medical emergencies and organising medical/ambulance assistance, reports of RTC related incidents, concern for welfare, reports of threatening behaviours and/or domestic related incidents, fire/intruder alarms and others.  HE thanked the COP for delivering his open report and after a lengthy discussion regarding statistical data, the committee suggested for statistical data comparison to be presented at the next meeting that would show what the levels are pre, during and post Covid and identify if there are specific trends of types crimes or traffic offences that occurred during different periods. | **COP** |
| **6.0** | **Annual Delivery Plan** |  |
| 6.1 | The COP introduced the five objectives of the Annual Delivery Plan which are in specific order as follows:   * Community Policing   The COP stated that this is the first priority of RFIP; to seek the continuous improvement of engagement and contact with the community to enhance trust and confidence in the services provided by the organisation and to ensure safe environment for the community. The Falklands have a diverse community and the COP is keen to have direct contact in each community to ensure that important messages are shared across. RFIP also have a patrol plans for daytime and night time that is reviewed regularly; this includes increasing visibility to certain areas during key times and joining other public meetings to engage with the community. RS said that the result of the survey was that the support from the Police in the Islands is lower compared to the UK whereas the opposite was expected due to us being in smaller community and this needs to be addressed whilst recognising all the work that is being done by RFIP. The COP added that there are various community events whether they are big or small and RFIP intends to be involved with every event to ensure that we have presence and enable members of the public engage with us. This also applies to community residing outside of Stanley and to ensure that they are aware that Police are here to help and assist.  The committee agreed and accepted to *Community Policing* being part of main objectives of RFIP.   * Protecting the Vulnerable   The COP stated that this is to keep the Falkland Islands safe by reducing crime and working together with partners to better the lives of children, young people and the most vulnerable within our community. For example, further embed a Police Service response to encompass the continuing threat posed by CSAE that supports the Falklands Islands overarching plan. HE said that RFIP have moved forward significantly with this in the last five years with the additional post of MASH Officer, CID, Safeguarding Board for both vulnerable children and adults; a lot of work has been done to allow for significant developments to be in place.  The committee agreed and accepted to *Protecting the Vulnerable* being part of main objectives of RFIP.   * Professionalising the Royal Falkland Islands Police Service   The COP stated that professionalising the Royal Falkland Islands Police Service – by the continuous professional development of our staff and by increasing local capacity and capability; Career paths for the local officers in post and to allow them achieve their goals within our service. The COP added that he is very pleased with PC Thorsen’s progress towards becoming a qualified Detective Constable. She is also keen to develop further towards a Sergeant’s rank in the future. In addition to this RFIP currently have two local police constables who joined the force recently and it is our responsibility to ensure that they are given all appropriate training needs to allow them achieve a successful outcome. This also includes training of reserve constables.  The COP added that there was a previous discussion where the student officers were meant to be sent to the UK for training and to gain skills; RFIP have the capability to deliver basic foundation policing courses in-house and it will be more beneficial if this is considered again when they have done policing work in the Islands for at least two years to gain a better understanding of policing duties, and then be sent to the UK to gain more experience and expose them onto other types of crimes and more demanding policing environment. Specialist training such as Crime Scene Investigations training was recently delivered by a professional trainer from the UK – RFIP now has six CSI trained officers that can be deployed to incidents when needed. Training plans are very important and this will be another key priority for RFIP. The AG queried if whether there will always be a need to recruit for overseas constables with particular experience and/or skills – the COP advised that he will be exploring recruiting tutor senior constables to then be the mentor of the local officers but also act with usual policing duties.  HE stated that this seems to be the right way forward and that local officers must learn their local policing context first before being exposed to a much more demanding policing environment such as UK. HE also thanked the members of the legislative assembly for the investment over a prolonged period in facilitating professionalising RFIP including the creation of CID as well as increasing the numbers of the uniformed officers, OTRCIS which is partly funded by FIG and FCDO and creation of a Firearms cadre.  The committee agreed and accepted to *Professionalising the Royal Falkland Islands Police Service* being part of main objectives of RFIP.   * Road Safety   The COP stated there is a consistent demand on police resources responding to incidents and complaints about road safety especially poor driving. Minor road traffic collisions occur at regular intervals in Stanley and vehicles all too frequently leave the MPC road. RS stated that he agrees with this objective, however, words of advice would be more suitable than a number of prosecutions due to being slightly over the speed limit, etc. People are compliant once advised or warned by the Police and this would hopefully avoid any prosecution.  The committee agreed and accepted to *Road Safety* being part of main objectives of RFIP.  The Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) legislation still needs to be developed. The AG advised that there are two different aspects to consider which involves de-criminalising some offences such as parking related matters and identifying a method of dealing with such offences including any legal processes. Joint work needs to be done with the AG and RFIP regarding this to clearly identify what traffic offences need to be de-criminalised, what legal processes are involved and develop the legislation from that information. HE said that he would highly encourage this to commence as quickly as possible and will make this as an action point for the COP to lead and liaise with the AG accordingly. The COP added that the challenge of who does the delivery of the FPNs will also be discussed with the AG in due course. The committee agreed to support the review of the FPN as soon as possible.   * Day and Night Time Economy Policing   The COP stated this is all about working with the Community, partners, and stakeholders to embed Day and Night-Time Economy plans to help encourage tourism, reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, and alcohol related incidents. This remains a challenge not only for the Policing Service but also potentially to other emergency services especially with the expected increase of contractors in the Islands to work on large capital projects as well as the attendance of military personnel which can sometimes be linked to excessive alcohol consumption. The Inspector intends to meet with all the licensees to discuss our general concerns and also to build a working relationship to ensure that everyone who comes to public houses are safe and are within the reasonable alcohol consumption limits.  The committee agreed and accepted to *Day and Night Time Economy Policing* being part of main objectives of RFIP. | **COP/AG** |
| 6.2 | The committee agreed and accepted all the five objectives as discussed during the meeting. HE tasked the COP to prepare the document to be submitted to EXCO for final approval. | **COP** |
| 6.3 | The committee discussed how the RFIP will measure the performance of the agreed objectives. The COP stated that in each objective there is a detailed guideline within the Annual Delivery Plan – this includes how each objectives can be measured and the expected result. HE stated that there are various methods to test the delivery of each objective such as the COP’s presentation to the Police Committee, statistical data, public perception survey and an external independent inspection. The COP went on to explain that with Community Policing, RFIP aims to establish key contacts with the hard-to-reach community and have a number of key messages to be delivered; RFIP also aims to improve their social media presence by having at least one post each day and increasing the number of followers; RFIP also aims to be involved with community activities including regular visits and/or patrols at MPC, East and West Falklands; and most importantly to increase community engagement in general. |  |
| **7.0** | **Confirmation of Date of Next Meeting** |  |
| 7.1 | To be confirmed (before 15th July 2022) |  |
| **8.0** | **Exclusion of Press and Public** |  |
| 8.1 | The Committee resolved to exclude the press and public on the grounds that the next items of business to be considered were exempt within the terms of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012 relating to information about individuals. |  |
|  | **Part II** |  |
| **9.0** | **Confirmation of the Exempt Minutes of Meeting held on 19th January 2022**  *(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012, relating to information about individuals)* |  |
| 9.1 | The exempt minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. |  |
| **10.0** | **Report of the Chief Police Officer (Closed Session)**  *(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012, relating to information about individuals)* |  |
| 10.1 | The committee discussed the Domestic Abuse campaign in greater detail and the COP will take the action forward of liaising with the Head of Social Services. |  |
| 10.2 | The COP gave a brief summary of the cases that CID has dealt or currently dealing with. There are 11 cases currently on-going which involve various sexual offences, maritime offences, theft and assault. |  |
| 10.3 | Message to HE The Governor from the Police Committee  The committee thanked HE The Governor for his services in the last five years and all the work he contributed to the Police Committee. The committee wished HE good luck to his new role as the Governor of St Helena Island. |  |
|  | The meeting ended at 1555 hrs. |  |

**~Ends>**